

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-03

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P 121711Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2022

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13243

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

1. RE ENCLOSURE, HANSEN HAS CALCULATED CAREFULLY AND SAYS
LOAD IS TOO HEAVY WITHOUT MODIFICATIONS. (IT WOULD REQUIRE
SUPPORT FOR 60 POUNDS PER SQUARE FOOT LIVE LOAD; HANSEN
CALCULATES STRUCTURE CAN TAKE SOMETHING IN EXCESS OF 50 POUNDS,
BUT NOT 60.)

2. WE WERE ANNOYED - TO PUT IT AS MILDLY AS POSSIBLE - BY
PARA 2 OF USDOC 17065. YOU MAY WISH TO INSIST ON TIGHTENING
UP CLEARANCE PROCEDURES. OF ALL EMBASSY OPERATIONS, THE
COMMERCIAL OFFICE HAS BEEN LEAST AFFECTED BY FIRE. SPIRIT
OF COOPERATION WHICH HAS MARKED ALL OTHER AGENCIES REPRESENTED
HERE SEEMS TO BE NOTABLY ABSENT ON PART OF THE CABLE'S
ORIGINATORS. A TIMELY REMINDER OF THE AMBASSADOR'S POSITION
AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL EMBASSY ELEMENTS MAY BE USEFUL
AT THIS JUNCTURE. THIS EMBASSY OPERATES AS ONE TEAM AND
WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO EXPECT FULL SUPPORT AND UNDER-
STANDING OF AGENCIES AT HOME IN THIS EFFORT.
(THE USCO STAFF HERE, NEEDLESS TO SAY, HAS BEEN FULLY
SUPPORTIVE, UNDER, BUT THEY FEEL QUITE UNJUSTLY AND
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 13243 121852Z

INEXPLICABLY UNDER THE GUN. THE PROBLEM IS NOT JUST THE
CALE MENTIONED BUT SEVERAL UNWISE AND IN OUR JUDGMENT IMPROPER
TELEPHONE CALLS TO THE USCO STAFF.) THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT
ALL NORMAL COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE BEING MAINTAINED WITH THE
FULL PARTICIPATION OF THE AMBASSADOR AND OTHER SENIOR
EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO HAVE GONE OUT OF THEIR WAY TO PARTICIPATE
IN SPITE OF A MYRIAD OF URGENT DEMANDS ON THEIR TIME.

3. RE PARA 2, STATE 216829, WE ALSO HAVE BEEN THINKING OF ASSIGNMENT POSSIBILITIES FOR CINDY SMITH. IN FACT, WE INTENDED TO CHECK POSSIBILITIES FOR A MEANINGFUL ROTATIONAL ASSIGNMENT WITH VARIOUS SECTION CHIEFS TODAY AND WILL CONTINUE ON THIS COURSE. (WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY CONSULAR OPENINGS HERE BEFORE SUMMER OF 1979.) WE DO NOT FEEL THAT A TRAINING SLOT FOR A SOVIET SPECIALIST SHOULD BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE, HOWEVER, UNLESS CINDY PLANS TO SPECIALIZE IN SOVIET AFFAIRS - AN INTENTION WHICH HAS NOT BEEN APPARENT UP TO NOW. THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE TO PUT FRIED INTO THE TRAINING POSITION, AND TRY TO GET AN 18-20 MONTH ASSIGNMENT FOR CINDY ON OVERCOMPLEMENT OR AS A "GENERAL" TRAINEE - I.E., WITHOUT USING A SLOT DESIGNED FOR YOUNG SPECIALISTS. IS THIS A POSSIBILITY?

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